

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 4478 OF 2025
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 1148 OF 2022**

Nilesh Ramkrishna Mhatre & Anr. ... Applicants
Versus
The State of Maharashtra & Anr. ... Respondents
**WITH
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 1148 OF 2022**

Mr. Rahul S. Arote for the Applicants/Appellants.
Ms. Sangita Phad, APP for Respondent-State.

**CORAM : MANISH PITALE AND
MANJUSHA DESHPANDE, JJ.**

DATE : 23rd DECEMBER 2025

P.C. :

. The applicants (original appellants) are seeking bail by way of this application.

2. It is pointed out that the applicant No.2 had applied for bail pending the appeal, but by an order dated 20th August 2024, her bail application was rejected on merits.

3. In this application, both the applicants are seeking bail on the ground that they have already suffered incarceration for a period of more than 10 years.

4. The learned APP seeks short adjournment to verify the facts and to assist this Court on the next date of listing.

5. We also find from the record that respondent No.2 (first informant) was being represented by an Advocate appointed through legal-aid. The learned counsel for the applicants inquired from the said Advocate, who informed him that she has now shifted to Goa. In that light, it would be appropriate that another Advocate is appointed through legal-aid. Accordingly, the High Court Legal Services Committee is directed to appoint an Advocate from its panel to represent the respondent No.2 (first informant).

6. List for further consideration on 8th January 2026 (High on Board).

(MANJUSHA DESHPANDE, J.)

(MANISH PITALE, J.)